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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

BOSMAN, et al

Group Art Unit: 1764

Appln. No.: 09/680,308

Examiner: GRIFFEN, W. D.

Filed: October 6, 2000

Atty Dkt. No.: 030268/0274361

Title: PROCESS FOR THE HYDROGENATION OF PHENYL ACETYLENE IN A  
STYRENE-CONTAINING MEDIUM WITH THE AID OF A CATALYST

December 6, 2002

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AMENDMENT

RECEIVED  
DEC 10 2002  
TC 1700

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 30, 2002, please amend the above  
identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 7, please ~~replace~~ the whole paragraph beginning on line 25, with the following  
new paragraph:

1 The process according to the invention is preferably carried out with a hydrogen :  
phenyl acetylene molar ratio  $\geq 1$ . By preference this molar ratio is between 1 and 10. For  
commercial-scale applications this molar ratio is preferably between 1 and 4. The molar ratio  
is kept as low as possible in order to prevent conversion of styrene and phenyl acetylene into  
ethyl benzene.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel, without prejudice or disclaimer, claim 8.

Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (Twice Amended) Process for the hydrogenation of phenyl acetylene in a  
styrene-containing medium with the aid of a catalyst and in the presence of hydrogen gas,  
wherein the catalyst is a sulfur-free nickel catalyst with a nickel content of 10-25 wt.%,